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Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant November 2021 Findings from the Information and Data Gathering Process to Inform an Update to the Multi-Year State Strategy

Summary

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) is the state administering agency for the federally funded Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. JAG funding is primarily available to states and local governments to help address self-identified criminal justice needs. In September 2020, the BSCC began the process of gathering information and data to inform and update the JAG multi-year state strategy. The BSCC, in partnership with the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), gathered input from interested parties through a year-long public input process consisting of two virtual listening sessions, a written comment period, and a web-based survey. This agenda item provides an analysis and synopsis of key findings.

Background

The JAG Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to states and units of local government. In general, JAG funds may be used to hire personnel and/or purchase equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice, including for any one or more of the following program purpose areas (PPAs):

- PPA 1 Law enforcement programs
- PPA 2 Prosecution and court programs
- PPA 3 Prevention and education programs
- PPA 4 Corrections and community corrections programs
- PPA 5 Drug treatment and enforcement programs
- PPA 6 Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
- PPA 7 Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation)
- PPA 8 Mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams

An analysis of the listening sessions, written comment period, and web-based survey responses did not reveal a specific PPA that the BSCC should singularly fund. However, prevention and education programs; mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams; and drug treatment and enforcement programs were generally in the top three ranks, in terms of importance.

Additional findings are provided in the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program: Findings from the Information and Data Gathering Process to Inform an Update to the Multi-Year State Strategy and will be addressed during the November 18, 2021 Board presentation.

Attachments

• Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program: Findings from the Information and Data Gathering Process to Inform an Update to the Multi-Year State Strategy